

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 8-10 as indicated below. The status of all pending claims is as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A magnetic head tester for testing characteristics of a magnetic head, in which a medium is rotated to float a slider from the medium, comprising:
a holder removably holding the slider opposed to a surface of the medium; and
suspension means being provided on said holder, which has the same function as a suspension supporting the slider in a real apparatus.

2. (Previously Presented) The magnetic head tester according to claim 1, further comprising:
a holder base inclinably holding said holder, with respect to the surface of the medium; and
means for always biasing said holder toward the medium.

3. (Previously Presented) The magnetic head tester according to claim 2, wherein said holder is inclinably supported, with respect to said holder base, by a supporting pin, which supports and contacts a load center of said holder, and said biasing means is provided to bias said supporting pin.

4. (Original) The magnetic head tester according to claim 3, further comprising an elastic member being provided between said holder and said holder base so as to limit inclination of said holder.

5. (Original) The magnetic head tester according to claim 4, wherein said elastic member is a coil spring.

6. (Original) The magnetic head tester according to claim 4, wherein said elastic member is a cushion.

7. (Original) The magnetic head tester according to claim 4, wherein said elastic member is a leaf spring of said holder, which suspends said holder.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The magnetic head tester according to claim 3,~~ A magnetic head tester for testing characteristics of a magnetic head, in which a medium is rotated to float a slider from the medium, comprising:

a holder removably holding the slider opposed to a surface of the medium;

suspension means being provided on said holder, which has the same function as a suspension supporting the slider in a real apparatus;

a holder base inclinably holding said holder, with respect to the surface of the medium; and

means for always biasing said holder toward the medium;

wherein said holder is inclinably supported, with respect to said holder base, by a supporting pin, which supports and contacts a load center of said holder, and said biasing means is provided to bias said supporting pin; and

further wherein a liquid is stored in said holder base, and said holder is floated on and supported by the liquid.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The magnetic head tester according to claim 2, further comprising:~~ A magnetic head tester for testing characteristics of a magnetic head, in which a medium is rotated to float a slider from the medium, comprising:

a holder removably holding the slider opposed to a surface of the medium; and

suspension means being provided on said holder, which has the same function as a suspension supporting the slider in a real apparatus;

a holder base inclinably holding said holder, with respect to the surface of the medium;

means for always biasing said holder toward the medium;

a hemispheric base supporting the slider on a flat face; and

a plurality of supporting pins being central-symmetrically arranged in said holder base, said supporting pins being biased toward said hemispheric base so as to slidably support a spherical face of said hemispheric base, wherein axial lines of said supporting pins are radially arranged with respect to a center of said hemispheric base.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The magnetic head tester according to claim 2,~~
~~further comprising:~~ A magnetic head tester for testing characteristics of a magnetic head, in
which a medium is rotated to float a slider from the medium, comprising:

a holder removably holding the slider opposed to a surface of the medium; and
suspension means being provided on said holder, which has the same function
as a suspension supporting the slider in a real apparatus;

a holder base inclinably holding said holder, with respect to the surface of the
medium;

means for always biasing said holder toward the medium;

a hemispheric base supporting the slider on a flat face, said hemispheric base
being slidably supported by said holder base; and

a plurality of air holes being central-symmetrically formed in said holder base
and radially arranged with respect to a center of said hemispheric base, wherein air is jetted
toward a spherical face of said hemispheric base from said air holes.

11. (Previously Presented) A magnetic head tester for testing
characteristics of a magnetic head, in which a medium is rotated to float a slider from the
medium, comprising:

a holder removably holding the slider opposed to a surface of the medium;

a holder base that at least partially surrounds said holder; and

a supporting pin positioned between said holder and said holder base for inclinably supporting said holder.

12. (Previously Presented) The magnetic head tester according to claim 11, further comprising a biasing member for biasing said supporting pin against said holder.

13. (Previously Presented) The magnetic head tester according to claim 11, wherein said holder base includes an accommodating hole for receiving said holder therein.

14. (Previously Presented) The magnetic head tester according to claim 11, wherein said holder includes a loose hole for receiving said supporting pin therein.

15. (Previously Presented) The magnetic head tester according to claim 11, further comprising:

a biasing member for biasing said supporting pin against said holder;

an accommodating hole, in said holder base, for receiving said holder therein;

and

a loose hole, in said holder, for receiving said supporting pin therein.

16. (Previously Presented) The magnetic head tester according to claim 15, wherein said biasing member is a coil spring that is coaxially positioned around said supporting pin.